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NEWS RELEASE

April 14, 2009

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UM CELEBRATES EARTH SERVICE DAY APRIL 18

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will celebrate Earth Service Day Saturday, April 18, with a host of activities, all of which are free and open to the public. Volunteers are invited to participate in any or all of the following events:

- **10 a.m.-noon:** Clark Fork River Cleanup, sponsored by the Clark Fork Coalition and REI. Meet at Caras Park.
- **10 a.m.-3 p.m.:** Mount Sentinel Prairie Restoration. Pull weeds, spread native seeds and build trail. Meet at the M trailhead with water, snacks and work gloves. Come at 9:30 a.m. for coffee, or walk up the trail to find the workers. E-mail umt.restoration@gmail.com for more information.
- **Noon:** Barbecue at Caras Park, for Earth Service Day workers.
- **1-2:30 p.m.:** Dumpster Dive. Sort recyclables at the Recycle Shed behind UM Facilities Services in the northeast corner of campus, between Washington-Grizzly Stadium and Mount Sentinel.
- **2-5 p.m.:** PEAS Farm chores on Duncan Drive in the Rattlesnake Valley. Volunteers will be making compost, so dress for mud or worse.

Earth Service Day volunteers with extra ambition can work in all the events by participating in the Ecopentathlon. Participants will ride their bikes from event to event, working about an hour at each. They will need a bike and helmet, water bottle and work gloves. Free T-shirts will be available while supplies last. Ecopentathletes will meet at 9 a.m. on the Kim Williams Trail near the Van Buren Footbridge. To participate in the Ecopentathlon, e-mail vicki.watson@umontana.edu or call 406-243-5153.

The Ecopentathlon schedule is as follows:

- **9-10:30 a.m.:** Clark Fork River Cleanup
- **10:30 a.m.-noon:** Mount Sentinel Prairie Restoration
- **Noon:** Lunch
- **1-2:30 p.m.:** Dumpster Dive
- **3-5 p.m.:** PEAS Farm chores

The fun continues Saturday evening with the Earth Service Day Dance. The dance runs from 7:30 to 11 p.m. at the Union Hall, located at 208 E. Main St. in Missoula. It features live music and instruction in easy-to-learn country folk dance, for which no experience or partner is needed. Tickets cost \$8 for the general public and Earth Service Day workers get one dollar off for every hour they worked. Children under 14 are admitted free.

More information is on the Greening UM Web site at

http://www.umt.edu/greeningum/earth_week.htm.

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